REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in connection with the accompanying Request for Continued Examination rather than in response to a rejection from the examiner. In the last communication from the Patent Office, the examiner allowed claims 1-8 and requested payment of the issue fee.

In this amendment, the original independent claims 1, 5, and 7 have been amended, as explained below. In addition, dependent claim 4 has been amended. Furthermore, new claims 9 through 50 have been added which includes new independent claim 11, 31, 36, 41 and 46.

With respect to the amendments of independent claims 1, 5 and 7, the first two amendments to claim 1 simply recognizes that the recitation "each having a dynamically allocated ... address" more correctly should describe computers rather than the computer users.

The description of the administrative module has been amended to recite that the regular accounts have varying amounts of administrative privileges which is broader than specifying exactly what each category of such privileges actually is. The new dependent claims 9, 10, 29, 30, 35 and 40 specify the privileges.

The first proxy server has been amended to state that it is not necessarily in each and every user computer but rather in "one or a plurality" of such user computers. Dependent claims 12 (dependent on new independent claim 11 discussed below), 14 (dependent on independent claim 1), 16 (dependent on independent claim 5) and 18 (dependent on independent claim 7) recite the scenario wherein the first proxy server is in

each and every user computer, which the version that existed prior to this amendment.

The version where the first proxy server is in fewer than every user computer, and in fact

can be in a single user computer, is supported by and suggested by the disclosure as

evidenced by page 4, next to the last paragraph, wherein the disclosure states that "FIG.

5A shows the use of proxy chaining with one deployed Gargoyle or first proxy server for

outbound interception enforcement for a group of HTTP clients with every web user

using the first proxy server's account and having the same level of access and

configurations." Gargoyle is the name of the system of the present invention.

With respect to the second proxy server, five amendments have been made. In the

first amendment, it is recited "a second proxy server without the administrative module"

rather than without any administrative module. This broadening amendment is intended

to include the situation wherein the second proxy server does not have the administrative

module previously referred to in the claim (i.e. the Gargoyle administrative module) but

may have a different administrative module. This scenario is contemplated by the patent

disclosure as evidenced by FIG. 4A which is described as illustrating the scenario where

"the first proxy server is the firewall system (Gargoyle) and is configured to be connected

to another HTTP proxy server." See page 11 lines 12-14 of patent application disclosure.

Page 12 of the patent disclosure at lines 9-11 also states: "Under this system, the only

way to connect to the Internet is to first connect to the first proxy server (Gargoyle) and

then be forwarded to the ISP-based HTTP proxy server, then to the Internet."

Furthermore, FIG. 4A states specifically that the other proxy server is located at the

Internet Service Provider (ISP). It is well known to persons skilled in the art that any

proxy server must have its own administrative module.

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Second, there is also a technical amendment to refer to the friendly and unfriendly lists using the definite article "the" since said lists were previously introduced.

In the third amendment regarding the second proxy server, the local area network is now introduced with the definite article "the" since the claim is referring to the previously introduced local area network. Fourth, the word "system" has been deleted as an adjective describing the LAN, since it was confusing and/or incorrect to have that term follow the phrase "local area network" that way. In the fifth amendment, the revised claim recites that the Internet Service Provider of the local area network is what is being referred to by the phrase "its local area network" and therefore the word "its" has been deleted.

Dependent claim 4 has also been amended to recite that the system is also compatible with a local area network and with a virtual network connection. Thus the phrase "virtual network connection" is proposed to replace the phrase "network line connection".

Also, regarding independent claims 5 and 7, the word "harmless" is being changed to "unimportant" and the phrase "highly sensitive resource" is being changed to "important resource". Thus, inbound communications are arranged so that an actual location of an "important resource" is located in an unpublished location and wherein ... unapproved users are not listed in the unfriendly inbound list and have their request sent to a published address that contains "unimportant" rather than "harmless" information. These changes are simply intended to be more precise. For example, a highly sensitive resource is obviously an important resource. The term "unimportant information" is more precise than the term "harmless information".

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New independent claim 11 is the same as independent claim 1 except that independent claim 11 has only one proxy server, called "first proxy server" and does not have a second proxy server. This is supported in the disclosure by FIG. 3A and in the paragraph that is located from line 20 of page 10 through page 11 line 7.

Among the remaining dependent claims not already discussed, claims 13, 15, 17, 19-22, 24, 26, 28 are simply recitations of the element that "the range of access levels ranges from maximum 100% access to full suspension". Thus these claims recite the identical element as the element recited in old claim 8 except that these claims depend from different claims than the claim that claim 8 depends from.

Claims 23, 25 and 27 simply recite that "the system is compatible with dialup modem connection to the Internet, a local area network and with virtual network connection", which is the identical element recited in proposed amended claim 4 except that these claims depend from claims that are not the same as the claim that dependent claim depends from.

Independent claim 31 is identical to independent claim 5 with the exception that for arranging inbound communications "approved users are not listed in the first proxy server in the friendly inbound list and are sent by the first proxy server to the replacement location" instead of the language "approved users are listed in the first proxy server in the unfriendly inbound list". Similarly, unapproved users are listed in the friendly inbound list rather than being not listed in an unfriendly inbound list.

This difference is suggested by and is inherent in the disclosure. At page 7, last paragraph of the disclosure the following is the usual way described in claims 1 and 11 of filtering and firewall security (and it also reflects the outbound list setups for claims 41

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and 46). Note that clarifying words from other parts of the disclosure have been inserted in brackets to relate the paragraph more explicitly relate to inbound communications:

"A friendly [i.e. inbound] list means a list of preferred names of entities such as [client addresses or subsets of client addresses,] URLs or subsets of URLs. A match with a friendly [i.e. inbound] list results in the [approved client's] requested URL being forwarded. [The rest of the requests are by disapproved clients who will be stopped or forwarded to replacement URL's.] An unfriendly [i.e. inbound] list is a list of non-preferred names of entities such as [client addresses or subsets of client addresses,] URLs or subsets of URLs. A match with an unfriendly [i.e. inbound] list results in the request not being forwarded to the destination - instead being terminated or forwarded elsewhere."

The whole point of the friendly and unfriendly lists is to silently route privileged (friendly) users to important resources and to allow the access of unprivileged (unfriendly) users to unimportant resources using different permutations. Claim 5 is one way of accomplishing this. Claim 31 is just a different (converse) way of accomplishing the same thing as claim 5. Note that the system of claims 5 and 7 are discussed in the second and third paragraphs of page 8 of the disclosure and on page 10 concerning FIG. 2. The way outlined in claim 31 is more useful in commercial settings where massive number of anonymous users are going to a web site such as news portals or sites. In accordance with claim 31, one cannot register millions of people so the non-registered users are the approved users.

Similarly, new independent claim 36 is identical to independent claim 7 with the exception that for arranging inbound communications "approved users are not listed in

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the first proxy server in the friendly inbound list and are sent by the first proxy server to the replacement location" instead of the language "approved users are listed in the first proxy server in the unfriendly inbound list".

As previously stated, the whole point of the friendly and unfriendly lists is to silently route privileged (friendly) users to important resources and to allow the access of unprivilcgcd (unfriendly) users to unimportant resources using different permutations. Claim 7 is one way of accomplishing this. Claim 36 is just a different (converse) way of accomplishing the same thing as claim 7. The way outlined in claim 36 is more useful in commercial settings where massive number of anonymous users are going to a web site such as news portals or sites. In accordance with claim 36, one cannot register millions of people so the non-registered users are the approved users.

Thus, for the same reason given as to new independent claim 31, independent claim 36 is suggested by and is inherent in the disclosure.

Dependent claims 32 through 34 depend from independent claim 31 in the same way that dependent claims 21, 23, 24 depend from claim 25 (directly or indirectly). Similarly, dependent claims 37 through 39 depend from independent claim 36 in the same way that dependent claims 21, 23, 24 depend from claim 25 (directly or indirectly).

New independent claim 41 is identical to original independent claim 1 (proxy chaining), as revised herein, except that new independent claim 41 is limited to outbound communications only. Similarly, new indcpcndcnt claim 46 is identical to original independent claim 11 (a single proxy sevrer), except that new independent claim 46 is limited to outbound communications only.

The system of the present invention supports the use of the system with only

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outbound lists. In particular, the use of inbound lists may be irrelevant for networks with a single user.

The original patent disclosure supports claims 41 and 46 and the claims 42-45 and 47-50 which are dependent thereon. In page 12 lines 3-5 of the patent disclosure, when discussing proxy chaining, the disclosure states: "Most commonly, the user computer is connected to the ISP through a modem connection and the first proxy server is installed and configured on this single computer." The idea of the user computer being connected to the ISP through a modem connection directly suggests a scenario limited to outbound communications since it well known that a modem connection normally is used for outbound communications.

In addition, the patent disclosure provides additional support for a scenario of only outbound communication in the connect of a single proxy server (claim 46) at page 10 lines 19 through page 11 line 4 discussing FIG. 3B which entails dialup modem access to the Internet for a single user. Again, a modem connection normally is used for outbound communications only. Page 8 lines 7-8 of the disclosure already explained that "[i]f [the requesting client] is an internal client then the outbound list is used as a reference point ..."

Dependent claims 42-45 and 47-50 mirror dependent claims 9, 21, 23, and 24.

Finally, claim 7 has the additional clarifying amendment at the last paragraph of the claim recites that "approved users are listed in the first proxy server in the unfriendly inbound list rather than "as unfriendly". Also, a grammatical change was made in independent claims 1, 5 and 7 in the paragraph introducing the first proxy server. This grammatical change, which occurs in the bolded word herein, is to remove a plural of the

word list in the clause "the friendly outbound list, the unfriendly outbound list, the friendly inbound list and the unfriendly inbound lists being uniquely configurable by each user."
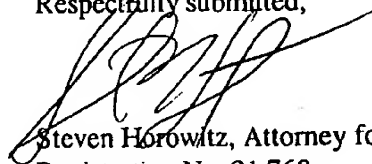
It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-50 are allowable over the prior art just as original claims 1-8 are. For example, revised independent claims 1 and 5 and their respective dependent claims, and new independent claims 31 and 41 and their respective dependent claims, all recite a second proxy server without the administrative module of the first proxy server in the environment of filtering internet usage via friendly and unfriendly lists. Independent claim 31 is similar to original independent claim 5 which was allowed. Independent claims 1, 5, 31 and 41 and their associated dependent claims all involve a system having two proxies that differ with respect to the administrative module and have a network communication link between them

Independent claim 36 is similar to original independent claim 7 which was allowed. Independent claim 11 has all of the features of claim 1 except for the second proxy server. Independent claim 46 is like independent claim 11 except it is for outbound only.

Since all of the foregoing amendments are understood to place the application in condition for allowance, their entry is submitted to be appropriate and is respectfully requested.

Dated: April 29, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that on **April 29, 2004,** I placed the following documents in connection with **patent application no. 09/661,876** for a WEB-BASED SECURITY AND FILTERING SYSTEM WITH PROXY CHAINING: (i) **RCE** Transmittal form (ii) check for $870 including $385 for **RCE** fee and $485 for 30 total claims in excess of 20 and 3 independent claims in excess of 3 (iii) Amendment (iv) acknowledgment postcard

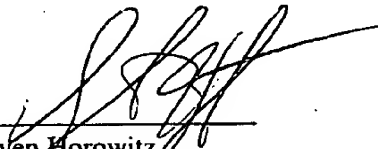in an Express Mail Post Office to Addressee envelope addressed to:

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Dated: April 29, 2004